in Jhumri Talaiya and Domchanch in Bihar once recorded by the MITCO itself and supplied to the ESI are now being changed unilaterally causing early retirement; if so, what are the facts thereof in details and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that Bihar Government Labour Department also advised the MITCO management against such arbitrary change of age records; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Majority of the workers in MITCO are illiterates and do not have any documentary evidence in support of their age. 15 workers out of a total of about 900 workers had indicated different age in their CPF and ESI forms respectively. To avoid any problem, MITCO decided to assess the age of such workers through medical examination.

(b) and (c) The matter had been taken up by MITCO with the Labour Department of Bihar Government. The final decision in individual case regarding age will be taken on receipt of medical report and completing other legal and procedural formalities.

Strikes in MITCO factories

1725. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of strikes that took place in MITCO factories during the last four years the percentage of workmen involved in each strike and the issues involved in each strike;

(b) the names of the Unions involved in these strikes;

(c) whether there was any discussion on behalf of the management at any level to avert these strikes;

(d) wheher it is a fact that refusal of the management to discuss the grievances of the workers resulted in the work stoppage; and

(e) if so, whether there is any instruction from Government to the MITCO management not to discuss or negotiate with SITU union; if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) A statement is attached. [*See* Appendix CXLIII, Annexure No. 79.]

(c) Yes, Sir. MITCO management took all possible steps including consultations with Labour Department of State Government of Bihar in order to avert the strike.

(d) MITCO Management has always been handling the grievances of the workers either directly with the Unions or with conciliation authorities.

(e) Does not arise.

Profit/loss account of MITCO factories

1726. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of profit and loss account of the MITCO factories for the last five years, year-wise and year-wise;

(b) the annual bonus paid to the workers during the same period, year-wise; and

(c) whether it is a fact that with the increase in profits, there was a decrease in bonus paid to the workers; if so, what were the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) The Corporation maintains a composite profit and loss account for arriving at the total profit/loss of the Corporation during the year. The details of profit earned and annual bonus paid to the employees of the

Corporation during the last five years are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
(1) Profit before tax . . .	102·39	46·26	52·25	55·40	30·36
(2) Profit after tax	41·58	21·08	22·22	21·50	23·35
(3) Percentage of bonus declared on employees earnings . .	20·00%	9·50%	8·33%	8·33%	8·33%

(c) Computation of allocable surplus for determining quantum of bonus payable to employees is made in accordance with the provisions of the Bonus Act, 1965. The allocable surplus during the years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 was not even sufficient to cover minimum bonus of 8.33 per cent payable under the Act. As such minimum bonus of 8.33 per cent was declared during each of these three years, *i.e.* 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86.

In the year 1982-83, 9.5 per cent bonus was declared which was higher than the minimum bonus of 8.33 per cent due to the fact that allocable surplus from the year 1981-82 was carried forward to the year 1982-83. During the year 1981-82, MITCO earned a record profit of Rs. 41.58 lakhs and maximum bonus was paid.

Recognition of Union in MITCO Factories in Bihar

1727. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the Union recognised in the MITCO factories in Bihar with facts in details;

(b) the date of giving recognition;

(c) the basis for giving recognition; and

(d) whether the management has ever assessed the representative character of the recognised union; if so, with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Electronic Works Trade Union, Giridih affiliated to INTUC representing the workers employed in MITCO's factories at Giridih, Bihar and Industrial Workers Association, Jhumritelaya also affiliated to INTUC representing workers employed in Corporation's factories at Jhumritelaya and Domchanch in Bihar have been recognised by the Mica Trading Corporation of India Limited, Patna. Both these Unions were recognised with effect from 29-10-1985.

(c) and (d) No physical vertification of tre strength of these Unions has been done. However, the Mica Trading Corporation has been signing agreements regarding service condition, bonus settlement etc. with them in the past. These unions *prima facie* appeared to have majority strength. On the basis of clarifications obtained from the Labour Department of the Government of Bihar, therefore, recognition of these Unions was made by the Corporation.

Permanent Centres for Trade Fairs

1728. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish permanent centres for organising trade fairs in different parts of the country; and